

# ABSTRACT

The invention relates to an actuator for a milking installation, whereby the actuator is fixed at a distance to a teatcup cluster (610) and is mechanically coupled with the teat cup cluster via a flexible component (613, 614) so as to incite a stimulating movement of the teat cup cluster on the udder by means of an actuator element (652) of the actuator. The inventive actuator can also be used to adjust the angle of tilt of the teat cup cluster during milking. The invention also relates to a retaining device (200) for teat cups (210), comprising a fastening device (201) for fixing the retaining device on a predetermined milking position. Said retaining device is also adapted to maintain, during a first operational phase, every teat cup of a plurality of teat cups in a fixed position relative to each other, and to allow manual access to every retained teat cup in such a manner that during a second operational phase every teat cup can be manually moved in several directions relative to the retaining device and at least one additional teat cup.